

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

Deval L. Patrick
GOVERNOR

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SECRETARY

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June 20, 2013

MuckRock News
DEPT MR 5662
PO Box 55819
Boston, MA 02205-5819

RE: Freedom of Information Request: Ocean Policy Records involving NROC, the NE-RPB, and Private Entities

Dear Mr. Hatfield,

I am writing regarding your letter requesting:

All electronic records generated or received from November 1, 2012 until present and which can be considered to be associated with, or relate to:

1. the state considering and/or being advised as to whether the Northeast Regional Planning Body (NE-RPB) is a federal agency, entity, or endeavor;
2. the NE-RPB being considered and/or defined to be a "convening body";
3. the status of the NE-RPB under state law, regulation, gubernatorial executive order or policy of any state agency;
4. policies, guidelines, and recommendations concerning the process by which NE-RPB decisions are made including, but not limited to, decisions of the executive secretariat;
5. sources of NE-RPB funding and/or support (including donated goods and/or services);

6. conditions attached to funding the NE-RPB receives;
7. NE-RPB information disclosure policies and/or any records with respect to how to respond to information disclosure requests;
8. the activities and/or communications involving the NE-RPB executive secretariat;
9. Northeast Regional Ocean Council (NROC) funding and/or support (including donated goods and/or services);
10. policies, guidelines, and recommendations concerning the process by which NROC decisions are made;
11. any conditions attached to NROC funding;
12. policies and procedures regarding personal identifying information (PII) that may be collected and/or used by NROC, and any records associated with that PII and any state and federal/state privacy laws;
13. any association between NROC and Seaplan;
14. NROC hosting, maintenance, use and/or access to the NE-RPB webpage;
15. ownership of the NROC Internet domain and all records related to the proxy being used for purposes of ICANN reporting and/or registration;
16. NROC meetings that involve regional ocean planning, inclusive of those records that discuss those planning activities in relation to NE-RPB activity;
17. amounts and rates associated with NROC expenditures on administration, staff, overhead, business expenses, and contributions;
18. policies, guidelines, and recommendations, recorded discussions concerning NROC staff or personnel engaging in lobbying activities at the federal, state, and/or local level;
19. the Massachusetts Ocean Partnership and/or Seaplan, including any conflict of interest statements that include reference to those entities;
20. public private partnerships and/or requirements for public accountability, transparency, and/or information disclosure policies involving non-governmental entities;

21. private and/or public funds being transferred to Massachusetts Ocean Partnership, Seaplan, and/or NROC;
22. Third Sector NewEngland funding to the State, Massachusetts Ocean Partnership, Seaplan, and/or NROC;
23. the policies and procedures associated with any PII that may be collected and/or used by Seaplan, and any records associated with that PII and any state and federal/state privacy laws;
24. complaints, disputes, legal actions, and/or other similar records associated with Seaplan and any person associated with Seaplan;
25. any limitations of liability, assignments, licenses, and/or waivers that involve Seaplan and/or Seaplan produced, provided or received data, information, and services;
26. agreements/contracts/memoranda of understanding between any of the NE-RPB, NOAA, and NROC "partners", collaborators, and contractors, including, but not limited to, Seaplan;
27. decisions, notices, and communications related to NROC and/or Seaplan maps or the Northeast Data Portal at the public NE-RPB engagement meetings scheduled for May and June 2013;
28. NROC and/or the NE-RPB referencing offshore wind power generation issues of maintenance, security, safety, and lifespan of generation structures;
29. any communications and/or requests referencing the U.S. Congressional Committee on Natural Resources and ocean planning in the Northeast; and
30. communications to/from/regarding the Council on Environmental Quality, Grover Fugate, Nick Napoli, John Weber, Stephanie Moura, Laura Cantral, Deerin Babb-Brott, the National Ocean Council, the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, the Consensus Building Institute, and/or members of the state or federal legislatures.

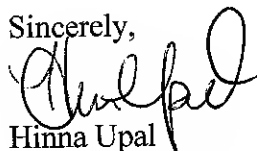
EEA is in the process of identifying documents that may be responsive to your request and will provide an estimate of costs associated with complying with your request as provided in M.G.L. c. 66, § 10 and 950 CMR 32.06.

This search will not cover records that may be in the custody of any other department or office subject to the Public Records Law. A request to inspect or copy such records must be made directly to each department or office.

Tom Hatfield
June 20, 2013
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If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (617) 626-1072.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hinna Upal', written over the printed name.

Hinna Upal
Deputy General Counsel